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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/957,431	10/24/1997	JOHN E. HOLLAND	378111	2082

7590

06/24/2002

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EXAMINER

GALLAGHER, JOHN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1733

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DATE MAILED: 06/24/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AS-5

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/957431

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Group Art Unit

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 OCTOBER 2001
- ☒ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____ ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 ☐ Other _____

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-7 and 9-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Yagi et al.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yagi et al. in view of Rossetti.

5. Claims 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yagi et al. taken in combination with Rerolle et al.

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6. Applicants' arguments filed 04 October 2001 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive. The foregoing art rejections are adhered to essentially for the reasons of record (see paragraphs 9 and 11-12 of the last Office action), with the following being additionally advanced in response to applicants' arguments and contentions made in the amendment: Regarding the (a) first art rejection, Yagi et al. are held to fairly and clearly disclose and provide for the production of a "molded body" composed of a single layer structure reinforcing fiber (e.g. woven, non-woven or knitted fabric) layer (N.B. column 5 lines 41-43 and 56-62) LAMINATED TO (as an ALTERNATIVE to being embedded in - N.B. e.g. column 5 lines 38-40 and also the Abstract) a preformed film (i.e. a relatively THIN layer) of thermoplastic resin in a heat and pressure laminating or bonding process wherein the resin is rendered molten (N.B. column 14 lines 41-47) i.e. a body or article which is held to constitute (although not termed or characterized as such by these patentees) a laminated and/or reinforced fabric; further along this line, N.B. that the processing temperature for their matrix resin as disclosed by these patentees is lower than 220° CENTIGRADE and NOT 220° FAHRENHEIT as contended by applicants; all of the foregoing notwithstanding, however, it is noted that Yagi et al. are directed to and fairly disclose ONLY the use of UHMWPE fibers for

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their reinforcing fiber layer and do not fairly document the use of aramid fiber (definitely) or "extended chain polyethylene" (apparently) in this capacity (although UHMWPE would seemingly most certainly indeed be encompassed within the scope and definition and/or metes and bounds of the term "extended chain polyethylene"); and (b) second and third art rejections, it is felt that the procedures and techniques of the two secondary references would readily suggest themselves as obvious expedients or alternatives to those of ordinary skill in this art for use in/in conjunction with the (basic) process of Yagi et al. (in that (1) these procedures and techniques are employed in the bonding or lamination of substrate materials of the type and/or similar to those of Yagi et al.; and (2) these primary patentees do not apparently limit themselves with respect to the bonding method they may employ (or that may be employed) i.e. N.B. column 14 line 41 thru column 15 line 5); to contend or conclude otherwise would be to attribute less than ordinary skill to the routineer in this art, to presume "stupidity rather than skill". (In re Sovish 226 USPQ 771).

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicants are reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The practice of automatically extending the shortened statutory period an additional month upon the filing of

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a timely first response to a final rejection has been discontinued by the Office. See 1021 TMOG 35.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. J. Gallagher whose telephone number is (703) 308-1971. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from approximately 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. The examiner can also be reached on alternate N/A.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Ball, can be reached on (703) 308-2058. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) ~~305-3599~~ ⁸⁷²⁻⁹³¹¹.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661/0662.


JJGallagher:cdc

June 6, 2002



JOHN J. GALLAGHER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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